

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: John Peter Hill, et al.

Art Unit:

Application No. 10/040,240

Filed: October 26, 2001

For: ROD REPLENISHMENT SYSTEM FOR
USE IN SINGLE CRYSTAL SILICON
PRODUCTION

Examiner:

Date: April 11, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on April 11, 2002 as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

Attorney for Applicant

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

TO THE COMMISSIONER
FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being filed to comply with the Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3).

The listed documents are published Japanese patent applications. English language translations of the applications also are enclosed. The translations have not been verified, but are believed to be accurate.

Applicants do not admit that the listed documents are prior art with respect to the above-identified United States patent application.

It is requested that the Examiner review the enclosed information and cite this

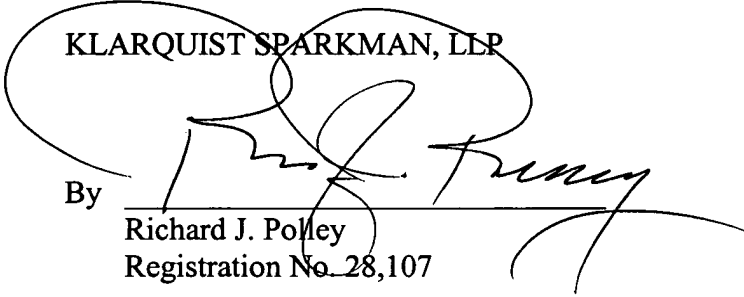
information as having been considered in connection with the present application.

No fee is required since this paper is being sent prior to the first Office action. However, if a first Office action on the merits is mailed before this Information Disclosure Statement is filed, please charge any fees that may be required in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A **duplicate** copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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